



WEATHER CROP



Cooperating with the Florida Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services
1222 Woodward St., Orlando, FL 32803
(407) 648-6013 · (407) 648-6029 FAX · www.nass.usda.gov/fl

Week ending June 1, 2008

DRY CONDITIONS CONTINUED IN NORTHERN AREA

WEATHER SUMMARY: High temperatures for the week ending June 1 were in the upper 80s to upper 90s, with Umatilla reaching over 100 degrees last week. Throughout the State, lows ranged from the mid 50s to 70s. Major cities averaged highs in the 80s and low 90s; lows were in the 60s and 70s. Most counties reported less than 1 inch of rain, with a majority reporting little to no rainfall. However, centrally located Hillsborough, Hernando, and St. Johns counties reported 0.45, 0.62, and 0.66 inches, respectively. Broward and Collier counties in the southern Peninsula reported 1.02 and 2.68 inches, respectively.

FIELD CROPS: Peanut planting was 90 percent completed, compared to 64 percent last year. In Santa Rosa County, wheat harvesting continued with yields reported down from last year. Wind damage affected about 5 percent of Santa Rosa's wheat acreage. Wheat and oat harvest was underway in Jackson County with good yields. Indian River County welcomed rain almost every day. Most other counties reported drought conditions. Dry soil delayed some planting in Washington and Jackson counties. Hay was made where possible, but dry conditions continued to leave hay in short supply in Desoto and Pasco counties. Soil moisture levels were reported very short in the Big Bend and central Peninsula. The Panhandle and southern Peninsula reported short soil moisture.

Percentage of peanuts planted to date:		
This year	Last year	5-year average.
90	64	79

Moisture Rating	Topsoil			Subsoil		
	This week	Last week	Last year	This week	Last week	Last Year
	<i>Percent</i>					
Very short	43	27	63	37	11	62
Short	39	53	20	38	61	29
Adequate	18	20	17	25	28	9
Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0

VEGETABLES: Vegetable harvest was almost finished in Hendry County. Tomato harvesting was expected to begin soon in Gadsden County with the crop reported as excellent. Washington County reported harvesting in full swing, however; non-irrigated crops showed stress from drought. Producers marketed snap beans, sweet corn, cucumbers, eggplant, okra, peppers, radishes, and tomatoes during the week.

LIVESTOCK AND PASTURES: The State's pasture condition decreased due to drought. In the Panhandle and northern areas, pasture condition was very poor to good, with most in poor condition. Pasture was grazed off short due to dry conditions. Hay supplementation to pastures was necessary. The cattle condition was poor to fair. In the central areas, pasture condition was very poor to good, with most of the pasture in very poor to poor condition. Drought was a big factor in the decline of the pasture grass this past week. Some cattlemen were completely out of hay. The cattle condition was very poor to good. In the southwestern areas, pasture was very poor to good, with most in poor to fair condition. Statewide, cattle condition was mostly fair.

Condition	Cattle		Pasture	
	This week	Last week	This week	Last week
	<i>Percent</i>			
Very poor	15	5	20	5
Poor	20	10	30	30
Fair	40	60	35	50
Good	24	25	15	15
Excellent	1	0	0	0

CITRUS: Citrus producing areas returned to the hot and dry weather pattern, except for the lower interior area. Temperatures ranged from the low 60s to the mid to upper 90s in all citrus areas. Rainfall was sparse, except in the lower interior area, where the Immokalee station reported over two and a half inches of rain. Thunderstorms were reported in many areas as afternoon temperatures reached the upper 90s, but rainfall was limited. With the extensive use of irrigation, most trees looked good with heavy foliage and healthy new fruit. Hedging and topping continued into the latter part of the citrus season. Other production activities included irrigating, spraying, mowing, and brush removal. Growers were combating greening by removing trees and attempting to control the psyllids with pesticides. Valencia harvest dropped below the six million box weekly amount as hot temperatures slowed harvest. Availability of fruit remaining to be harvested decreased as some fruit softness resulted from the dry and hot weather. Some processing plants were planning to run Valencia oranges into the second week of July. Grapefruit utilization declined rapidly with small amounts continuing to be processed. Honey tangerine harvest neared completion with packing houses closing for the season.

ESTIMATED BOXES HARVESTED - WEEK ENDED			
Crop	May 18	May 25	June 1
	<i>In thousands of 1-3/5 bushel boxes</i>		
Navel oranges	2	1	1
Temples	1	0	0
Valencia oranges	6,296	5,330	5,144
Grapefruit	145	117	51
Honey tangerines	134	60	14

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